

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An apparatus comprising:
2 a power supply node;
3 a load circuit;
4 a transistor coupled between the power supply node and the load circuit; and
5 a control circuit to utilize the transistor as a regulator or a sleep transistor.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the control circuit includes an error
2 amplifier to influence operation of the transistor.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the control circuit comprises a plurality of
2 control loops to influence operation of the transistor as a regulator.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the control circuit comprises a first control
2 loop having an error amplifier.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the control circuit further comprises a
2 second control loop having a higher bandwidth than the first control loop.
- 1 6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the second control loop is adapted to sense
2 a voltage between the transistor and the load circuit using a source of a second
3 transistor.
- 1 7. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
2 a second power supply node; and
3 a second transistor coupled between the load circuit and the second power
4 supply node;
5 wherein the control circuit is adapted to utilize the second transistor as a
6 regulator or a sleep transistor.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the load circuit comprises a memory
2 circuit.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the load circuit comprises a cache memory
2 circuit.

1 10. A circuit comprising a sleep transistor coupled between a power supply node
2 and a load circuit, wherein the sleep transistor is coupled to provide power supply
3 regulation.

1 11. The circuit of claim 10 further comprising an error amplifier coupled to the
2 sleep transistor.

1 12. The circuit of claim 11 further comprising a multiplexer coupled between
2 the error amplifier and the sleep transistor, wherein the multiplexer is adapted to
3 conditionally turn off the sleep transistor.

1 13. The circuit of claim 10 further comprising a control circuit to conditionally
2 turn off the sleep transistor.

1 14. The circuit of claim 13 wherein the control circuit comprises a first control
2 loop including an error amplifier.

1 15. The circuit of claim 14 wherein the control circuit comprises a second
2 control loop including a sensing transistor coupled to sense a voltage variation using
3 a source terminal.

1 16. The circuit of claim 15 wherein the control circuit further comprises a bias
2 transistor coupled between the sensing transistor and a second power supply node.

1 17. The circuit of claim 16 further comprising a voltage divider coupled between
2 the power supply node and a node formed at a junction between the sensing
3 transistor and bias transistor, the voltage divider to influence operation of the sleep
4 transistor.

1 18. The circuit of claim 10 wherein the load circuit comprises a memory circuit.

1 19. The circuit of claim 10 wherein the load circuit comprises a cache memory
2 circuit.

1 20. The circuit of claim 10 wherein the load circuit is in a first integrated circuit
2 die, and the sleep transistor is in a second integrated circuit die.

1 21. The circuit of claim 20 wherein the first integrated circuit die is mounted on
2 top of the second integrated circuit die.

1 22. A method comprising performing power supply regulation using a sleep
2 transistor.

1 23. The method of claim 22 further comprising turning off the sleep transistor.

1 24. The method of claim 22 further comprising sensing a voltage and
2 influencing operation of the sleep transistor with an amplifier in a first control loop.

1 25. The method of claim 24 further comprising sensing the voltage and
2 influencing the operation of the sleep transistor in a second control loop.

1 26. An electronic system comprising:

2 a first integrated circuit including a sleep transistor coupled between a power
3 supply node and a load circuit, the sleep transistor to provide power supply
4 regulation; and
5 a static random access memory device coupled to the first integrated circuit.

1 27. The electronic system of claim 26 wherein the first integrated circuit further
2 includes an error amplifier coupled to the sleep transistor.

1 28. The electronic system of claim 27 wherein the first integrated circuit further
2 includes a multiplexer coupled between the error amplifier and the sleep transistor,
3 wherein the multiplexer is adapted to conditionally turn off the sleep transistor.

1 29. The electronic system of claim 26 wherein the first integrated circuit further
2 includes a control circuit to conditionally turn off the sleep transistor.

1 30. The electronic system of claim 29 wherein the control circuit comprises a
2 first control loop including an error amplifier.